

September 30, 2004

Alan Mitchell Manager, Power Plant Siting Minnesota Environmental Quality Board 658 Cedar Street St. Paul, MN 55155

Re:

Site Permit No. 03-72-LWECS-Trimont

Proposed Amendment to Permit Requirements

Dear Mr. Mitchell:

On June 17, 2004, the MEQB granted Trimont Wind I, LLC ("Trimont"), a permit for a 100.5 MW wind energy generating facility near Trimont, Minnesota. Since receiving approval of the Certificate of Need and the Site Permit, Trimont has conducted geotechnical work at the site and continues to monitor the wind resource and to make minor refinements to the layout to optimize project performance. During the development and permitting process we have addressed the issues related to protection of cultural resources and flora and fauna through the State Historic Preservation Organization and the Department of Natural Resources.

Permit Condition C1 requires that the MEQB approve the location of any turbine located less than 5 rotor diameters ("RD") from either the project boundary or from the boundary of any property for which the permittee does not hold wind rights. The intent of this setback requirement is to protect wind development rights for sites not controlled by the permittee.

Assuming an 82 m (269 ft.) RD, there are two publicly-owned parcels that are within 5 RD (1345 ft.) of any of the proposed turbines. Attached, please find a map that shows the two parcels and the turbine array that was approved as part of the Site Permit.

The parcels in question and the affected turbines are as follows:

County	Section	Use	Size (acres)	Affected Turbine(s)
Jackson	36	State of MN drainage channel	0.4 (30' x 553')	#7, 1292' (4.8 RD)
Martin	20	Cemetery	3	#31, 980' (3.6 RD) #43, 990' (3.7 RD)

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The size and use of these parcels (cemetery and drainage channel) indicates that they are unsuitable for wind development. Trimont believes that, in this case, MEQB staff has the discretion to allow the listed proximity of these turbines to the affected parcels. However, in the event that the MEQB believes that more formal action is required, Trimont respectfully requests that the MEQB amend Site Permit No. 03-72-LWECS-Trimont to allow turbines 7, 31, and 43 to be located as described above.

Trimont believes that the proposed site layout and setbacks are justified and consistent with the goals set by the Board and the Permit, and that no adverse effects will occur with respect to any third party as a result of approving this amendment.

Please consider these requests at your earliest convenience. Feel free to contact me or Michelle Bissonnette (763-278-5910) with any questions you may have. Thank you for your consideration.

Yours Truly,

Raimund Grube

Trimont Wind I, LLC

cc: David Birkholz, MEQB

Michelle Bissonnette, HDR

John Drawz, Fredrikson & Byron, P.A.